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~~US Officials Only~~**Turkey****Political, Social and Economic Factors/School or  
Department of Business Administration/Nurses Training/  
Schools of Nursing/Village Development**

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**1. Political, Social and Economic Factors in Turkey**

For more than four centuries the Ottoman Turks controlled a vast empire - Eastern Europe from Poland to the Adriatic Sea, Asia Minor, the Arab Middle East, and about half of North Africa. Their empire rested on military force and administration but never developed an industrial base. As the effects of the Industrial Revolution became apparent in Western Europe, the Ottoman Empire fell to pieces under pressure from better armed powers. Modern Turkey is but a small, though apparently self-sufficient, remnant.

2. The Turks are a distinctive people. They are of the Orient and of the Occident, knowing the West, but seasoned in the ways of the East. They know their neighbors intimately, having ruled and lost them. They fear no nation.

3. When Turkey became a republic in 1923, it was a country ravaged by war. Its few industries were military and its agriculture was primitive. The inherited social structure of the Ottoman Empire was a serious handicap. The Turks had been administrators, soldiers, church officials and landowners. The minority groups - Armenians, Greeks and Jews - controlled industry and commerce which the Turks despised. The legal and political systems inherited from the Empire retarded economic progress. There had been a gradual development of a system of secular law and secular courts, but the Church retained basic control of the legal system. The Sultan decided policy and issued edicts. It was the duty of all other officials to obey without discretion or discussion.

4. The Sultan had granted foreigners special privileges or capitulations which had included exemptions or low rates on taxes and tariff duties, franchises and the right to be tried in special courts under foreign jurisdiction. Turkey could not raise its tariff duties without the consent of the capitulation powers. Foreigners could operate in Turkey with practically no control by the Turkish government. The foreign-owned Ottoman Bank had exclusive power to issue currency and served as depository and paymaster for the government. Railroad, mining and public utility concessions were most favorable to the foreigners. Turkey came to regard foreigners and foreign capital with a deep-rooted resentment and distrust.

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5. "This was the situation when Mustafa Kemal Pasha (Ataturk) came to power. A brilliant soldier and self-reliant leader, Ataturk instituted a series of drastic reforms. He secularized the state by abolishing the Caliphates. Moslem schools were suppressed and education made a state responsibility. Civil, criminal and commercial codes replaced church law. He adjusted time to the international clock and Georgian calendar. He did the impossible by making the hat obligatory in place of the fez. Turkish women were requested to remove their veils. The Arabic alphabet was made illegal and replaced by a rationalized latin script. All capitulations were abolished and foreign concessions terminated - some, however, being purchased by the government over a period of years.
6. "A large exchange of minority populations was carried out with Greece. Foreigners were, and still are, barred from almost all positions in industry, commerce and government. The Turks were forced, therefore, to enter fields of activity they had despised.
7. "During the early years of his rule, Ataturk relied on domestic private enterprise for the economic and industrial development of the new republic. Private enterprise, however, did not respond; at least not to the extent required. The government began to move in the direction of state enterprise of 'etatism'. This was a policy of national expediency adopted not for ideological reasons but in an effort to promote industrialization as rapidly and efficiently as possible. It was not prompted by hostility to private enterprise. Nor was it designed to interfere with the rights of private property. However, it had no positive bias in favor of private enterprise and in fact the semi-monopolistic position of state enterprise in the investment market and other advantages of government organization restricted the development of free enterprise. Moreover, the policy of etatism proved disappointing largely for lack of centralized control, direction and coordination.
8. "Whether more progress was made under the policy of etatism in Turkey than might have taken place under private enterprise is a question for economists to debate. However, the new Democratic party which came into power in 1950 adopted the policy of selling state-owned industries and stimulating private industry.
9. "Ataturk was frequently referred to as a dictator. A Turkish woman once asked him at a public meeting whether he was a dictator. His reply was: 'If I were a dictator, you would not be permitted to ask such a question'. His power of persuasion, however, was good and he was interested in many of the principles of a Western democracy and he wanted his people to understand and participate in government. In 1931 he encouraged the organization of an opposition party but was not satisfied with the results and abolished it. Inonu, his successor, made a further attempt in 1939 to organize an opposition party. This also failed. But in 1945 the Democratic party was founded. It contested the 1946 election with little success. However, in an election recognized as fair and honest, the Ataturk party was soundly defeated and the Democratic party came into power. The dignity with which the party founded by Ataturk went out was a fine demonstration of political maturity and developed in the Turks a respect for democracy.
10. "There is some question whether the new Democratic party can be held together. Some splintering of dissident factions has started but the groups of individuals withdrawing have generally done so for personal reasons. The political observers we talked to in Turkey do not believe that the threat of a multiple party system is serious.
11. "Turkey is a compact rectangle of some 300,000 square miles within which there is a considerable difference of climate and geography. There are about 20 million Turks. The population is most dense along the Black Sea and western coastlines and in European Turkey. The eastern part, especially along the Russian border, is sparsely settled. The population is chiefly rural and agricultural with about 75 percent of the people living in the rural areas. Most of the peasants live from the land much as their ancestors did. The IIRD (International Bank for Reconstruction and Development) report of 1951 states that the cause of their meagre standard of living is the low ratio of capital, including land and land improvements as well as machinery and livestock, to the number of farm workers. In addition to the natural limitations of climate and soils, production is limited by lack of the simplest equipment facilities and by ignorance of sound agricultural practices. There are, of course, areas of large landholding which permit economical use of farm machinery and provide a satisfactory standard of living for the operator's family.

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12. "Despite the progress made by Turkey, its economic development leaves much to be desired. The standard of living of the peasant has not only failed to improve substantially but in some respects has been adversely affected. During the past twenty years there has been no significant change in the distribution of population. The more than 34,000 villages continue much as they have in the past and Westernization is not clearly evident. However, it must not be forgotten that over one-half of the villages now have schools. There is also evidence in several of the agricultural areas of a tremendous increase of tractors and farm equipment which have come into the country mainly during the last five years. It is estimated that there were no more than 2,000 tractors in 1947. Today there are more than 25,000.
13. "The ECA and the MEA missions have given a great boost to the development of mechanical agriculture and the MEA mission continues to assist the development of agricultural resources and agricultural education. Hydro-electric power facilities are being constructed, the technique of mining coal and the equipment used therein are being improved, roads are being constructed and improved, malaria is being controlled and limited technical advances are being made in industrial development.
14. "Turkey has the land for expansion, particularly in the eastern part of the country and one hears talk of the country being able to support forty to fifty million people. It impressed us as a land and people with a future. It must not be overlooked, however, that it has its problems of illiteracy, disease, primitive agriculture and inefficiency of government which it must overcome.
15. "The funds available to overcome these handicaps to economic development are severely restricted by the drain of income into military expenditures. Approximately 60 percent of the revenues of the Turkish state go for this purpose.
16. "With this background information we visited Turkey and contacted government officials, private Turks, and foreigners in and around Istanbul, Ankara and the area immediately surrounding. We received a friendly reception from officials and other Turks with whom we came into contact. There was every evidence that the Turks want to work with the US and Americans. Both officials and non-officials discussed their problems frankly and without embarrassment. They took the attitude that they have problems which must and will be solved. Assistance given in the form of technicians, funds or supplies will be received with appreciation. If no assistance is given, the problems nevertheless will be solved by the Turks themselves.
17. "School of Department of Business Administration  
Ten years after Ataturk came into power in Turkey his autocratic government launched a five-year plan of industrialization under a policy of statism - direct state participation in economic activity, especially in industry. Private industry had not developed as desired; there had been a shortage of private capital, the minority groups which had played so important a role in finance and business leadership were no longer in control, foreign capital was no longer welcome due to the history of capitulations and intervention and there was precedent for state ownership in Ottoman history when the Turks had established military factories. Statism was adopted as a policy of nationalistic expediency and was directed toward new industrial development.
18. "Heavy investment of government funds in industry did not succeed in substantially raising the real per capita income. Profits of state factories went into expansion of state enterprises or were used to cover losses of other government plants. No dividends on capital invested were paid to the Turkish Treasury. Private industry was indirectly discouraged. Popular support of the policy of statism declined in recent years.
19. "After World War II, American observers began to criticize Turkish statism and in view of the relations between the two countries such criticism appeared to have an influence.
20. "The Turkish government began to talk of limiting the development of state enterprises. In May, 1947, a decree was adopted whereby earnings of foreign corporations in Turkey previously held in blocked accounts, could be deblocked by export of certain commodities. In March, 1950, a law was passed to encourage foreign investment in Turkey which permitted the Ministry of Finance to guarantee the transfer of profits, interest, and capital of foreign investors.

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21. "In the 1950 political campaign one of the basic issues was the question of public versus private enterprise. The Democratic Party, which defeated the government, had included in its platform promises to private enterprise which the new cabinet reaffirmed by including these campaign promises in its program submitted to the Grand National Assembly on 29 May 1950.
22. "The policy of encouraging private enterprise and limiting state ownership has been adopted but the policy is not self-executing. There is little experience of private industry in Turkey. Studies of industry outside the government sphere are practically nonexistent. Few books on the Turkish economy even mention privately-owned factories. Few statistics of any value have been collected on the capacity, output, or growth of private industry. Private industry which is supposed to provide the future economic development is in many aspects thereof an unknown quantity.
23. "There has been no real development of investment banking. People who invest in industry are generally traders who build factories as a sideline and most of the private industrial establishments are owned by families which gained their original strength in commerce. The concept of low markup on mass produced articles does not exist. Inventories are often high for reasons of speculation.
24. "The government is now responsible for taking steps to create an environment in which private capital can with safety be accumulated and invested and in which private enterprise can develop the skills it needs for effective investment.
25. "The government of Turkey consults the universities of Ankara and Istanbul on many matters, and the influence of the universities is felt in government policy decisions. The universities would like to strengthen their departments of economic and business administration in order that they can more adequately serve their government, private industry, labor and stimulate the thinking and training of the students interested in the problems of private industrial development.
26. Nurses Training  
One hundred years ago, less two, Florence Nightingale began work in the Barrack Hospital in Soutari, across the Bosphorus from Constantinople, Turkey, and there founded the principles of modern nursing. The Barracks stand as a constant reminder that modern nursing was born in Turkey. Yet there was no school of nursing in Turkey when World War I ended. There has been little demand for nursing service by the public probably due to a lack of knowledge of the value of good nursing service. Demands, however, for nursing service are definitely increasing.
27. "In the past there has been an attitude questioning nursing as a respectable or suitable professional field. This attitude is changing and girls from the low and middle earning classes are now being attracted into nursing.
28. "One of the deterrents to girls entering nursing has been the low incomes paid those who entered the government service. The Minister of Health and Social Welfare expressed confidence in the passage of a proposed bill increasing the scale of nurses salaries which would make the profession of nursing more attractive.
29. "It is estimated that there are between 400 and 600 active nurses for the more than 20,000,000 Turks. There is obviously an inadequate number of nurses by any standard.
30. "Dr. J.M. Vine, a representative of the World Health Organization, who surveyed Turkey's health facilities in 1949, is accredited with the general statement that the Turks' deficiencies in disease control are not in knowledge, but in funds and in the number of nurses for an over-all plan. Dr. Vine believes that Turkey needs twenty times as many nurses as they had in 1949. There has been little change since that date.
31. "The Report of a mission sponsored by the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development in collaboration with the government of Turkey entitled 'The Economy of Turkey, An Analysis and Recommendations for a Development Program', dated 1951, reviewed the history and status of public health in Turkey and after stating that 'The nation's output of both physicians and nurses cannot cope with the need and in both cases the quality of training is far from satisfactory'; (page 178) commented specifically on the training of nurses as follows:

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'The need for new and better training facilities for nurses and allied staff is especially urgent. Hospitals now employ 75 percent of the 600 professional nurses in the country, but for proper staffing they need at least twice as many. An ultimate fivefold increase of hospital beds and the needs of dispensaries, health centers and a public health nursing service would bring the requirement for nurses to at least 11,700. Yet present training facilities are turning out only about 65 new nurses per year. Turkey thus has an enormous training problem ahead which must take priority over all else.

'To supply the need for trained nurses, the mission calculates that about TL 70 million would have to be spent over a 20-year period. Existing training schools should be enlarged and new ones opened in connection with nearly all the larger hospitals of the country. The major difficulty in this connection is the provision of trained teaching staff, which now exist only in the Red Crescent Society's Nurses School at Istanbul. Employment of foreign nursing instructors and the sending of Turkish nurses abroad for special training would help to speed the training program.'

'The report refers specifically to public health nurses and states on page 181:

'The development of a system of public health nurses with at least one for every 5,000 people, should also be incorporated into the training program. Such nurses, of whom there are now but few in Turkey, would, in addition to general training, receive special instruction in home nursing, infant and child care, school health inspection, home hygiene, and the improved use and preparation of local foodstuffs. A nursing service of this kind should be an important part of the nation's health services, particularly in rural areas where there is likely to be little else in the way of home medical assistance.'

'There are few nurses working in the field of public health.

32. Schools of Nursing now operating in Turkey  
The Asikiral Hospital, Istanbul, School of Nursing was founded in 1920 shortly after the opening of the hospital. A new hospital building was finished just as World War II began and a new building for the School of Nursing was completed and occupied in October, 1950. The new school building is a fine structure and has adequate space and equipment for the training of 34 student nurses. In May, 1952, the school had 16 student nurses, 13 of whom were Moslem girls and 3 were from the minority groups.
33. Red Crescent School of Nursing, Istanbul, was founded in 1925. The school in May, 1952, had 39 student nurses in training. The Red Crescent is the Red Cross of Turkey and in many respects the school of nursing has pioneered in nursing education in Turkey.
34. Barbarossa School of Nursing, Istanbul, was founded in 1945 by the Ministry of Health and Social Assistance in Istanbul in an effort to relieve present nurse shortage in government hospitals and health centers, and to provide nursing personnel for anticipated expansion under a 10-year health program of the Ministry. The school is entirely government supported. The building was planned for 50 student nurses and has generally had more student nurses than the planned capacity and, as an example, in 1949, the school had 73 students.
35. Etili Hospital School of Nursing, Istanbul, was founded by the Ministry of Health and Social Assistance in 1945, again in an effort to relieve nursing shortages. The school is entirely supported from government funds. The school is already overcrowded and in May, 1952, had over 60 students.

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36. Istanbul Tuberculosis Association School of Nursing, Istanbul, was established in 1943 in connection with its 200-bed sanitarium. The purpose of the school is to train nurses to work in the Tuberculosis dispensaries and sanatoria of the Association. The school has approximately 20 students.
37. School of Nursing Model Hospital, Ankara: the Ministry of Health and Social Welfare recently established this school of nursing in Ankara.
38. "A meeting was held with the Minister of Health and Social Assistance, Dr. Ekrem Hayri Ustunay on 7 June 1952 in Ankara. The meeting was attended by Dr. Nail Karabuda, Under Secretary, Dr. Arif J. Anil, Director General, Dr. Cemalettin OR, Representative of Turkey at the Narcotic Drug Commission of the United Nations, and Miss Fatma Bengisu, Director of the Nursing Section of the Ministry. The Minister informed us that the government planned to establish four new nursing schools sometime within the next year or so; that he was concerned about the inadequate training in the existing schools; that he was also concerned with the adequacy of the organization and teaching plans for the new nursing school; that in general he was not satisfied with the direction of nursing in Turkey. He further said that his primary concern and project of first importance was the training of good nurses.
39. Village Development  
By sheer force of numbers the Turkish peasant is of primary importance in the development of the country. Four out of five of the more than 20,000,000 Turks derive their living from agriculture and live in the villages of the country. Under the Ottoman Empire the government did not concern itself with the villages beyond collecting taxes, conscripting soldiers and preserving law and order. There was little interest taken by the towns in the village. Under the new republic the policy is to encourage relationship of town and village but the gulf has been hard to bridge.
40. "The officials of the Mutual Security Administration and the Embassy state that the programs of social and economic development in Turkey are making effective progress, as example, in the fields of agricultural development, education, industrial development, construction and improvement of transportation facilities. But the development of the village as the home of the vast majority of the people of the country falls between the various programs. Some of the programs referred to affect the villages directly and indirectly but there has been no progressive approach to the general improvement of the standard of living of the villages. Elmer A. Starch, head of the Agricultural Technical Assistance program of MSA says that the weakness in the entire economic and social development program in Turkey is the lack of any concentrated effort in village development.
41. "We were told on every hand that the villagers do not exert general leadership in the development of their communities. Housing is from poor to bad. Washing of clothes is still done by the women in the polluted waters of the area. Individual home baking which is the practice is expensive and inefficient where there is a serious lack of fuel as in the Anatolian Plateau. Food is not preserved adequately or in sufficient quantities. Clean water and sanitary measures are at the minimum in the vast majority of the villages.
42. "A village development program, to be successful, would have to improve in a visible way the well-being of the villager. The villager would have to understand and want improvement. The activities would have to be on a level that would incite his interest and participation. All phases of village life would have to be considered, including village leadership in government, community activities, home-making, education, health and sanitation, agriculture and simple cottage industries. Mr. Starch envisions the possibility of centers being built similar to those in Austria which contain provision for heating hot water, laundry, bathing, a bakery and food-preservation facilities. The teacher, the extension agent, the health and sanitation workers and others interested in phases of social and economic development would all have to be brought together and the work coordinated under a successful program.
43. "A successful village development program would be of help to Turkey in the solution of another problem which confronts the country. Fragmentation of land holdings is a serious problem in several of the more concentrated areas of population. Farmers do not have enough land upon which to eke out a satisfactory living. In the eastern part of the country, however, there are rather vast areas of land waiting for development. Several people we talked to in Turkey believe that the government will in the not too distant future undertake resettlement projects. The knowledge gained from a village development program could be very useful in any such undertaking."